

Chris Hughes, who now owns the venerable New Republic outright, was one of the original Facebook developers which led in due course to him becoming a wealthy fellow indeed.

He was also in charge, during the run-up to the 2008 elections, of all the Social Media projects at the Obama for President campaign's national HQ in Chicago.

A few weeks before the November ballot date, Mr. Hughes either was or was not personally behind Obama HQ's organized denial-of-service (DOS) attack on the call-in phone lines for old-line liberal prof. Milt Rosenberg's radio talk show, when Rosenberg was interviewing nasty wingnut polemicist Stanley Kurtz, Ph. D., who had just finished researching the archives of the Chicago Annenberg Challenge (CAC) held in the library at the University of Illinois, Chicago: a public institution assuredly not to be confused with the very private University of Chicago.

The CAC board was headed by the egregious silver-spoon revolutionary Wm. Ayers; allegedly, "just some guy from the neighborhood", who had handpicked Barack Obama to be its Director throughout the three-year (?) project period. Indeed, that was Obama's sole executive position ever, prior to his entering electoral politics.

Ayers was then still on the UIC faculty, and likely may have instigated the abortive attempt by the UIC Library to withdraw its earlier permission to Kurtz to access the stacks, which collapsed when the center-right blogosphere got wind of that ploy... Although never a word on it appeared in the mainstream media (not least, in the Chicago Tribune, which was and is the owner of WGN).

The terms of the CAC's fund-raising required an uncharacteristically robust post-facto evaluation of the project, which concluded that essentially the \$120 million (!) of public and private money raised and spent by the CAC went nearly entirely down the toilet.

Almost nothing could be more toxic just then to the upcoming election than a close identification in the public's eye between Obama and Ayers and his politics.

The DOS was a dirty trick on the Nixonian slime scale, and the host of DOS clone calls that did get through parroted the same three lines: "Kurtz is an evil man; WGN is abetting evil by having him on Rosenberg's show; and that therefore WGN's broadcast license must now be revoked by the FCC."

Rosenberg, for his part was just flabbergasted: in three or four decades of broadcasting, he had never been subject to a DOS attack on his call-in lines, and he was rendered almost speechless. Possibly the program can still be accessed online (it was up for at least the following six month) from the WGN website.

It should also be mentioned that the Obama campaign was invited, yea strongly encouraged, by Rosenberg to send a spokesperson to join the program with Kurtz.

The campaign not-so-politely declined, claiming they had "insufficient time to prepare" a proper riposte to Kurtz's likely points.

Again, total sound of crickets on that episode from the mainstream media. Including, not least, the Chicago Tribune, nor —to my knowledge— from any other WGN commentators.

This was really an indicator of what the Obamazoids had in store for us and why at all costs, in their current "gun control" initiatives, they need to be utterly disassociated from anything that smacks of their considerable affections for demonization as a tactic, and "progressive" de-facto tyranny as an ideological objective.

Great work there, TNR! May you soon go the way of Newsweek. Sorry 'bout that to the handful of self-respecting writers/editors still on the masthead. (That's you I'm talking about, Leon Wieselthier.)